

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. Claims 15-22 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1, 2, and 3, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,098,146 (Bouvier et al.);

Claims 4 - 12 stand objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim;

Claims 13 and 14 stand allowed.

Claims 1, 2, and 3, are canceled herein, without prejudice.

In the Office Action dated June 10, 2004, the Examiner indicated that claims 4 - 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form incorporating the elements of claim 1, claim 2, and claim 3.

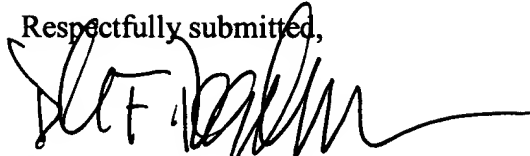
No new matter has been entered. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Having dealt with all of the outstanding objections and/or rejections of the claims, Applicants submit that the application as amended is in condition for allowance, and an allowance at an early date is respectfully solicited. In the event there are any fee deficiencies or

additional fees are payable, please charge them, or credit an overpayment, to our Deposit

Account No. 502262.

Respectfully submitted,



Dale F. Regelman, Ph.D.
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 45,625

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on September 9, 2004, at Tucson, AZ.

By: 

LAW OFFICE OF
DALE F. REGELMAN, P.C.
4231 S. Fremont Street
Tucson, Arizona 85714

TEL 520-741-7636
FAX 520-746-9114